



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/473,604	12/29/1999	GREG GRIFFITH	BELL-0017/99	1193

7590 01/31/2003

STEVEN H MEYER  
WOODCOCK WASHBURN KURTZ  
MACKIEWICZ & NORRIS LLP  
ONE LIBERTY PLACE 46TH FLOOR  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103

EXAMINER

MILORD, MARCEAU

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2685

DATE MAILED: 01/31/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/473,604

Applicant(s)

GRIFFITH ET AL.

Examiner

Marceau Milord

Art Unit

2685

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 August 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

DETAILED ACTION

*Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thorne (US Patent No 6021310) in view of Lazaridis et al (US Patent No 6219694 B1).

Regarding claim 1, Thorne discloses a method of coupling a portable communications device (fig. 1) to a first network (fig. 4 where elements 54 and 56 are connected to an outside network; col. 5, line 60- col. 6, line 6) by way of a second network (fig. 4 where elements 48 and 34 are connected to PSTN which is a second network; col. 5, line 63- col. 6, line 35), the PCD (paging device 10 of fig. 1) normally in radio communication with the first network (fig. 4), the PCD (paging device 10 of fig. 1) being coupled to the first network by way of the second network ( col. 5, line 60- col. 6, line 65) ; establishing ( pager 10 in fig. 1 can establish contact with a base station by way of a network connector 48 such as PSTN, col. 5 , line 30- col. 6, line 35 ; an external computing network such as the Internet ; for example the computerized paging device is able to receive and send e-mail messages and convert a received audio signal into a data signal , col. 8, lines 1-31) a network connection with the first network; and entering ( 34 of fig. 4 where a telephone line connection jack 34 is connected to the modem 48 for connection of the computerized paging device 10 to an external telephone line for wired telephone

communication) into communication with the first network ( col. 5, line 40- col. 6, line 35; col. 7, lines 4- 64).

However, Thorne does not specifically disclose the step of establishing a network connection with a first network by way of a second network, and entering into communication with the first network by way of the second network.

On the other hand, Lazaridis et al, from the same field of endeavor, discloses in figure 1, a host system that is connected to a LAN 14, which also connects to other computers 26, 28 that may be in the user's office. The LAN 14, is connected to a wide area network 18, which is defined by the use of the Transmission Control Protocol /Internet Protocol to exchange information. The WAN 18 in turn is connected to a variety of gateways 20, via connections 32, where the gateway forms a connection or bridge between the WAN 18 and some other type of network, such as an RF wireless network, cellular network, satellite network, or other synchronous or asynchronous land-line connection. The mobile data communication device 24 is a hand-held two-way wireless paging computer, a mobile telephone with data messaging capabilities, or a wirelessly enabled laptop computer, but could be other types of mobile data communication devices capable of sending and receiving messages via a network connection 22 (figs. 2-4; col. 5, lines 40-67; col. 6, lines 2-48; col. 7, lines 1-65). It is considered that the telephone network, which is the second network, is coupled to the cellular network (the first network). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the technique of Lazaridis to the computerized paging device of Thorne in order to provide coverage for a dual mode cellular handset especially when the handset is outside the range of an associated telephone base station.

Claim 2 contains similar limitations addressed in claim 1, and therefore, is rejected under a similar rationale.

Regarding claims 3, 14, and 11, Thorne as modified discloses a method wherein the pager is a two-way pager (figs. 1 and 4), and wherein entering into communication comprises entering into two-way communication with the first network by way of the second network (col. 5, line 40- col. 6, line 35; col. 7, lines 4- 64).

Regarding claims 4-10, 15-16, Thorne as applied to claim 1 above differs from claim 4 in that fails to disclose the steps of de-coupling the PCD from the second network upon ending communication therewith; and causing the PCD to leave the second network mode and enter the first network mode.

However, Lazaridis et al, discloses in figure 1, a host system that is connected to a LAN 14, which also connects to other computers 26, 28 that may be in the user's office. The LAN 14, is connected to a wide area network 18, which is defined by the use of the Transmission Control Protocol /Internet Protocol to exchange information. The WAN 18 in turn is connected to a variety of gateways 20, via connections 32, where the gateway forms a connection or bridge between the WAN 18 and some other type of network, such as an RF wireless network, cellular network, satellite network, or other synchronous or asynchronous land-line connection. The mobile data communication device 24 is a hand-held two-way wireless paging computer, a mobile telephone with data messaging capabilities, or a wirelessly enabled laptop computer, but could be other types of mobile data communication devices capable of sending and receiving messages via a network connection 22 (figs. 2-4; col. 5, lines 40-67; col. 6, lines 2-48; col. 7, lines 1-65). It is considered that the telephone network, which is the second network, is coupled

Art Unit: 2685

to the cellular network (the first network). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the technique of Lazaridis to the computerized paging device of Thorne in order to provide coverage for a dual mode cellular handset especially when the handset is outside the range of an associated telephone base station.

Regarding claims 12-13, Thorne discloses a method of coupling a portable communications device (fig. 1) to a first network (fig. 4 where elements 54 and 56 are connected to an outside network; col. 5, line 60- col. 6, line 6) by way of a second network (fig. 4 where elements 48 and 34 are connected to PSTN which is a second network; col. 5, line 63- col. 6, line 35), the PCD (paging device 10 of fig. 1) normally in radio communication with the first network (fig. 4), the PCD (paging device 10 of fig. 1) having a serial port and being coupled to the first network by way of the second network ( col. 5, line 60- col. 6, line 65) ; coupling ( paging device 10 of fig. 1) the PCD to the second network; causing the PCD to leave a first network mode and enter a second network mode ( col. 5, line 60- col. 6, line 65 ; pager 10 in fig. 1 can establish contact with a base station by way of a network connector 48 such as PSTN, col. 5 , line 30- col. 6, line 35 ; an external computing network such as the Internet ; for example the computerized paging device is able to receive and send e-mail messages and convert a received audio signal into a data signal , col. 8, lines 1-31) a network connection with the first network ; and entering ( 34 of fig. 4 where a telephone line connection jack 34 is connected to the modem 48 for connection of the computerized paging device 10 to an external telephone line for wired telephone communication) into communication with the network ( col. 5, line 40- col. 6, line 35; col. 7, lines 4- 64).

However, Thorne does not specifically disclose the step of establishing a network connection with a first network by way of the second network; and entering into communication with the first network by way of the cradle and the second network.

On the other hand, Lazaridis et al, from the same field of endeavor, discloses in figure 1, a host system that is connected to a LAN 14, which also connects to other computers 26, 28 that may be in the user's office. The LAN 14, is connected to a wide area network 18, which is defined by the use of the Transmission Control Protocol /Internet Protocol to exchange information. The WAN 18 in turn is connected to a variety of gateways 20, via connections 32, where the gateway forms a connection or bridge between the WAN 18 and some other type of network, such as an RF wireless network, cellular network, satellite network, or other synchronous or asynchronous land-line connection. The mobile data communication device 24 is a hand-held two-way wireless paging computer, a mobile telephone with data messaging capabilities, or a wirelessly enabled laptop computer, but could be other types of mobile data communication devices capable of sending and receiving messages via a network connection 22 (figs. 2-4; col. 5, lines 40-67; col. 6, lines 2-48; col. 7, lines 1-65). It is considered that the telephone network, which is the second network, is coupled to the cellular network (the first network). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the technique of Lazaridis to the computerized paging device of Thorne in order to provide coverage for a dual mode cellular handset especially when the handset is outside the range of an associated telephone base station.

Claims 17-20 contain similar limitations addressed in respective claims 1-3 and 7-11, and therefore, are rejected under a similar rationale.

Art Unit: 2685

***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Conclusion***


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marceau Milord whose telephone number is 703- 306-3023. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 10-8.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward F Urban can be reached on 703-305-4385. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703- 872-9314 for regular communications and 703- 872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-0377.

  
MARCEAU MILORD

January 17, 2003

  
EDWARD F. URBAN  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2000